

# national park service

For Immediate Release  
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## **Point Reyes Beaches Littered with Oily Material**

The United States Coast Guard, Point Reyes National Seashore, California Department of Fish & Game Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) and National Marine Sanctuary personnel are involved in investigating the apparent discharge of an oily substance along Drakes Bay in Point Reyes National Seashore. The oily material lines the high tide line along scenic Drakes and Limantour Beaches. The material was first sighted on Tuesday by park visitors and staff.

The material has been collected by the U.S. Coast Guard and park rangers and samples have been sent for analysis. The National Park Service and U.S. Coast Guard hope to identify the material and the possible source of the contaminant. Coast Guard contractor crews will be on-site today to remove the material from park beaches.

Drakes and Limantour Beaches are utilized by hundreds of thousands of park visitors each year. The offshore Gulf of the Farallones is considered one of the most productive marine areas in the world. Because it is part of Point Reyes National Seashore and the Gulf of the Farallones Marine Sanctuary, marine discharges of any nature are prohibited in the area.

Please visit our expanded website at [www.nps.gov/pore](http://www.nps.gov/pore) and visit the California Fedpage at [fedpage.doi.nps](http://fedpage.doi.nps) for information on all Federal natural resource agencies in California.

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**Point Reyes National Seashore**

**Point Reyes Station, California 94956**